FREE – TAKE ONE

The Romulus News

MARCH 9, 2000 – MARCH 22, 2000 "the little paper" VOLUME 13 NUMBER 16

Romulus Schools Appoint Business Manager

The Romulus Board of Education has appointed William A. Routhier as Manager of Business and Operations for the school district. Routhier will take over the duties now performed by Joel Carr, who will become Superintendent upon the May 31 retirement of Dr. William M. Bedell.

"Mr. Routhier comes to Romulus with a truly impressive list of professional credentials," said Board Trustee Eva Webb. "I believe that our district will greatly benefit from his extensive experience as an administrator."

Routhier is currently the business manager for the Westwood Community Schools, where he is responsible for the district's financial and operational affairs, including:

- preparation of the general-fund and building-project budgets,
- administration of purchasing policies and procedures,
- administration of the district's insurance program, and
- direction and evaluation of the work of the business-office staff.

Carr, who has known Routhier professionally for several years, calls him "a real team player," and says that he's looking forward to working with his new administrator.

"Romulus was very fortunate to attract someone of William Routhier's caliber," Carr stated. "Many area school districts are now scrambling to fill positions created by wholesale changes in their administration, and competition for experienced personnel is fierce."

Routhier earned his Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Eastern Michigan University in 1972, and is looking forward to his December 2000 graduation from Wayne State University, where he is pursuing his Master's Degree in Educational Leadership. Certified by both the Association of School Business Officials International and the Michigan School Business Officials, he is also deeply involved with the Michigan Association for Improved School Legislation and the Wayne County School Business Officials organizations.

William Routhier

The 53-year-old Routhier is an Army veteran and dedicated father of two. Originally from Franklin, New Hampshire, he currently resides in Livonia. ❑

Donahey Named Chamber's Person of the Year

Richard Donahey

Following an extensive selection process, the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce has chosen Richard M. Donahey to receive its 20th Annual Person of the Year award.

Donahey has done countless hours of volunteer work to benefit both groups and individuals, and his many quiet donations to good causes have truly been made "from the heart."

Born in 1928, Donahey graduated from Northwestern High School, then persevered through 10 years of night school to earn his Bachelor of Science degree in business from Wayne State University in 1965. He began his career at United Brass Manufacturers, Inc., in January of 1959, when the business was only eight years old and employed just 18 people. He has served as the company's president since 1976.

Donahey and his wife Patricia, who celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in 1999, are best friends who have traveled extensively together. Patricia and their son Jim also work at United Brass; daughter Linda lives in the area and works in Plymouth.

The organizations with which Donahey is (or has been) affiliated include:

- Yankee Air Force at Willow Run (charter member),
- Good News Gang,
- Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce (charter member; director from 1983 to 1986),
- Romulus Rotary Club (past president; 16 years of perfect attendance),
- Boys and Girls Club of Romulus (charter member),
- Belleville Historic Museum,
- Belleville Area Republic Club,
- St. Paul's Lutheran Church–Livonia (officer and member from 1958 to 1973),
- St. Paul's Lutheran Church–Belleville (member since 1973; president from 1996 to 1999), and
- numerous antique car clubs.

A banquet honoring Donahey for his outstanding dedication and contributions to area communities will be held at the DoubleTree Hotel on Friday, May 19. The event will begin with a reception (6:30 p.m.), followed by dinner (7:30 p.m.) and an awards ceremony. Tickets – available for a donation of $30 per person – must be paid for by May 4.

For more information, please contact the Chamber office (9191 Wickham; 734-326-4290) during its regular business hours (Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.). ❑

Timely Tidbits ...

4 Wrestlers Qualify for Championships

By placing fourth or better at the recent Regional Tournament, four wrestlers from Romulus High School will go on to compete in the State Championship Meet, set for Thursday, March 9, at Joe Louis Arena. The qualifiers were Chris Anderson (103 pounds), Micah Wade (125), Aaron Brohl (135), and Charles Thompson (189).

Because Anderson is just a freshman, his third-place finish at Regionals was quite an accomplishment, according to Coach Jason Balcom.

Wade qualified for his first State tournament by placing second.

Co-captain Aaron Brohl, a senior this year, wrestled spectacularly, beating Bedford's Casey Robertson, who finished fourth in the State last year.

Thompson qualified for his fourth consecutive State meet by winning the Regional Tournament.

"We really stepped it up for this tournament," said Balcom. "Many of our kids beat wrestlers they had lost to earlier this year.

"We expect to do the same at the State meet," he added.

To receive All-State honors, a wrestler must finish at least eighth at the Championships.

Sign Up Now for Last Nurse-aide Class

Romulus & Van Buren Adult and Community Education invites you to sign up for the last "certified nurse assistant" training class to be given this school year. The class prepares students to take the State exam and become a Competency Evaluated Nursing Assistant (CENA).

The seven-week program will be held at Romulus High School from 6 to 10 p.m., Monday through Thursday, beginning March 20. It's free for non-high-school graduates who were at least 20 years of age as of September 1, 1999; others pay $375 tuition. For more information, call 734-941-0610. ❑

The Police Report

Does This Sound Too Good To Be True?

By Joe Richardson, Crime Prevention Officer, Romulus Police Department

"Do I have a deal for you!

"I'm involved in a business deal worth $25 million, but I can't put the money in my account. I need 25 partners so that I can spread out the money on this deal. Each partner will receive a 10% service fee for his/her assistance.

"All you need to do is send me your name, your bank's complete address and telephone number, and your bank account number (to which the funds will be remitted)."

Does this sound too good to be true? That's because it is. It's nothing more than a scam to get your money.

A criminal enterprise out of Lagos, Nigeria, recently sent a similar offer to a Romulus resident. Its members, who claimed to be top officials with the NNPC (Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation), offered her 30% of $35 million if she would allow them to transfer funds into her bank account. Of course, if they had obtained her account number, they would have withdrawn all her money.

This type of crime is a form of mail fraud, and is therefore handled by U.S. postal inspectors. Unfortunately, the Nigerian government has not cooperated with our postal service's investigation, so anyone victimized by this particular scam would have little recourse.

Beware of any get-rich-quick offers that come your way. If it sounds too good to be true, it's probably a scam.

In closing, I would like to thank the Romulus resident who turned this letter over to Romulus Police Chief Charles Kirby, and commend her for not falling for this scam.

Editor's note: Officer Richardson welcomes your questions, comments, and/or ideas for news articles. Call him at 734-942-6871. ❑

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The Romulus News

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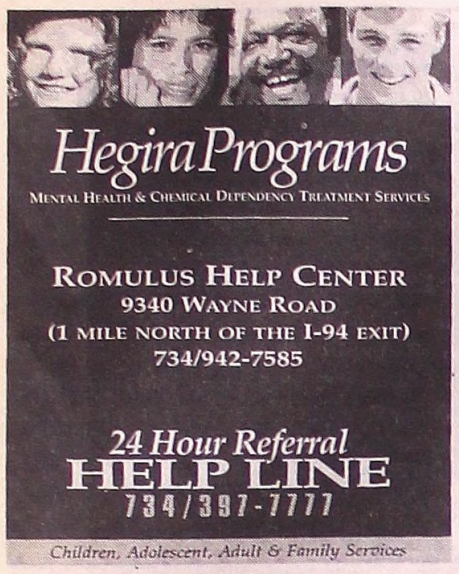

Top 10 Most Influential Languages of the World*

1. English
2. French
3. Spanish
4. Russian
5. Arabic
6. Chinese
7. German
8. Japanese
9. Portuguese
10. Hindi/Urdu

**according to an article written by George Weber and published in* Language Today *(Dec. 1997).*

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Essay Emphasizes Importance of Learning Foreign Languages

Editor's note: In honor of Foreign Language Week (March 6–10), "the little paper" is reprinting the following essay – written by Kim Mientkiewicz, a 1996 graduate of Romulus High School – in order to emphasize some of the benefits and pleasures that can result from studying a second language.

Why do I need to learn a foreign language? When will I ever use this? In high school, these always seemed to be popular questions. Although I may not have known the answer then, it is certainly clear to me now.

Not long ago, I had the opportunity to study abroad for six months at the Centre de Linguistique Appliquee in Besançon, France, along with 18 other students from Western Michigan University. On January 1, 1999, as the plane door opened, I stepped out and into the French life, culture, and language. Little did I know that that door was opening to the world!

The first day of classes, I looked around the room in amazement. There were people from every corner of the world, from countries like Brazil, Kuwait, Chad, Australia, Japan, and Russia, just to name a few. We had all gathered there to learn French.

In my level of classes, there were a few other American girls from Nebraska, a group of Japanese girls, and other students. We all seemed to have personalities that just clicked. One night, the Japanese girls invited the girls from Nebraska and me over for dinner. They prepared sushi and several other traditional Japanese dishes that were absolutely delicious. We all sat around talking, sharing stories of what life is like in our respective homes. The part of this particular moment that really sticks out in my mind, though, was the brief moment when I took a step back, looked around, and realized what was going on at that dinner table. There I was, not knowing a word of Japanese, and they didn't know a word of English. We were using our second language to communicate. Sure, we made mistakes, perhaps picked a wrong vocabulary word or used the wrong tense of a verb, but we still understood one another. I never imagined I'd be learning about Japan through the French language, but I did.

I learned a great deal of French culture through the language, since that was all that was spoken in the home. I lived with Maurice and Marie-Claude Tannier, and I could not have wished for a better family. Some of my best learning experiences came from dinner-table conversations, weekly trips to the grocery store with Marie-Claude, or the long walks we'd take together through the countryside. There are certain things in life that we can't learn from a book, but only from each other. I appreciate so much of what they gave to me and taught me that I could never say "merci" enough!

So, why did I learn French? After my experience abroad, I could give you many wonderful reasons why. To expand my world would best sum it up. I've gained a sincere appreciation and an even deeper curiosity for other cultures. And, best of all, I have lifelong friends and family on the other side of the world, and I will continue to communicate with them for years to come, thanks to foreign-language study. ❑

Kim Mientkiewicz (left) – pictured here with members of her host family on a hilltip overlooking Besançon, France – believes that there are many good reasons to study a second language. She encourages students to take advantage of the programs now offered in Romulus schools.

Adams Speaks at Conference

Pat Adams

Pat Adams, Elementary Science Coordinator for the Romulus Community Schools, was a featured speaker at the Michigan Institute for Educational Management's sixth annual conference on classroom assessment, held in Lansing last month.

"Pat's invitation to make a presentation at this prestigious event recognizes the Romulus school district's leadership in this area," said Tom Dolan, Director of Curriculum.

Adams has been collaborating with other educators to construct MEAP-like assessments for "off-year" grades.

"The science portion of the Michigan Educational Assessment Program, or MEAP, is given to elementary and middle-school students in the fifth and eighth grades," said Adams, "so I have been working with other Romulus teachers to construct model exams for our third-, fourth-, sixth-, and seventh-graders in order to help them prepare for the real tests they'll face in the future."

Adams explained that she and her colleagues used State "benchmarks" as guidelines.

"Students have to answer both constructed-response and selected-response (multiple choice) questions in a time format similar to the MEAP's," she said. "They also have to do a scientific investigation, compile a journal, and answer questions about their observations. In the last section, students read a selected passage and then answer questions based on what they read."

La Monica Retires from District

Dr. Samuel B. La Monica, Director of Human Resources for the Romulus Community Schools, is retiring after more than four years of service with the district.

"Working with the fine people in the Romulus schools and community has been the highlight of my career," said La Monica, who has also been employed by school districts in the Houston, Texas and Syracuse, New York areas, as well as in Livonia. "Our combined efforts have resulted in the hiring of many outstanding teachers who will lead the district's educational efforts in the twenty-first century."

During La Monica's tenure, Romulus has recruited approximately 120 new teachers, many of whom have replaced teachers who retired after accepting the district's recent buy-out proposal for its senior employees.

La Monica is well respected for his involvement in the Wayne County Negotiator's and State Personnel Director's groups. His expertise in labor relations and administration garnered him a teaching post at Michigan State University. He has also been involved with the Metropolitan Bureau of School Services, which provides statistical information on programs, salaries, and the like.

Among the many new teachers hired by Dr. Samuel B. La Monica (second from left) during his short time with the Romulus Schools were (from left) Jessica Graham (second grade, Merriman), Rob Baty (sixth grade, Barth), and Terri Brinston (health occupations, Romulus High School).

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Former Student Gives Recital

Tracy Blizman, a 1995 graduate of Romulus High School, presented a beautiful recital at the Dalton Center in Kalamazoo on Sunday, February 6. The program – featuring major works for French horn – was Blizman's third at Western Michigan University, where she is making straight "A"s in her French horn classes as an undergraduate student studying music performance.

Following the receipt of her Bachelor's Degree this spring, Blizman intends to continue her studies at Penn State University with work on a Master's Degree in French horn performance. She has an audition scheduled in the near future, and has received indications that she will be given strong consideration for a major scholarship/fellowship opportunity.

Blizman has also become involved in music education, working as a private tutor with band programs of the Portage and Vicksburg public school systems.

The daughter of Theresa Blizman, Barth Elementary School's intervention-room specialist, Blizman was an outstanding band student at Romulus High School, where she performed in the symphonic, marching, and jazz bands.

"Tracy certainly reflects positively on the Romulus band program and school district," said Band Director Henry James. "We wish her well on her future endeavors." ❑

Tracy Blizman

Dr. Seuss's Birthday Honored

As the National Education Association celebrated its second annual Read Across America Day on March 2 – in honor of the birthday of children's author "Dr. Seuss" – elementary students throughout the Romulus school district joined in with various festivities.

At Barth, for instance, teachers donned big, floppy, red-and-white hats (reminiscent of the one worn by Seuss's famous Cat) and students wore pajamas during a lengthy morning reading session that was followed by special word games, coloring theme-appropriate posters, and other activities.

At Halecreek, local "celebrities" attired in Cat hats – including City Clerk Linda Choate, Councilmen Randy Gear and Bill Wadsworth, School Board members Betty Lenossi and Debbie Dick, various City and School administrators, and attorney Susanne Oakley – read to students in each classroom. Later, students participated in activities suggested by the stories that were read and feasted on special cupcakes.

Feasting was also a big part of the celebration at Merriman, where students enjoyed a breakfast of green eggs and ham. ❑

Joining in "Read Across America" activities on the birthday of Dr. Seuss were Halecreek teacher Phyllis Williams and students (from left) Kelly McGlynn, Autumn Schuster, Deontae Hale, and Steven Flagg.

Notaro Is Guest Speaker At Michigan Reading Conference

Gretchen Notaro, a first-grade teacher at Halecreek Elementary, will give a presentation on "Working with Words" at the Michigan Reading Association's annual conference, slated for March 24–28 at Cobo Hall in Detroit. The presentation is based on the "Four Blocks" teaching process that was developed about 10 years ago by Patricia Cunningham, a former teacher in Salem, North Carolina.

Four Blocks calls for equal amounts of time spent on four building-blocks of reading:

- the meaning of words,
- guided reading materials,
- writing,
- self-selected reading.

Under its system, students learn words, how to decode them, what they mean, how they are pronounced, and how they are used in sentences. The study words are taken from a list of the most common words found on a "word wall."

According to Notaro, she begins with the first 100 words on the list and develops 150 throughout the first grade. Another 150 are added in the second grade. Students work on both guided and self-directed reading, as well as writing, using these words throughout the process. Continual review to assure student retention is an important aspect of this instructional technique.

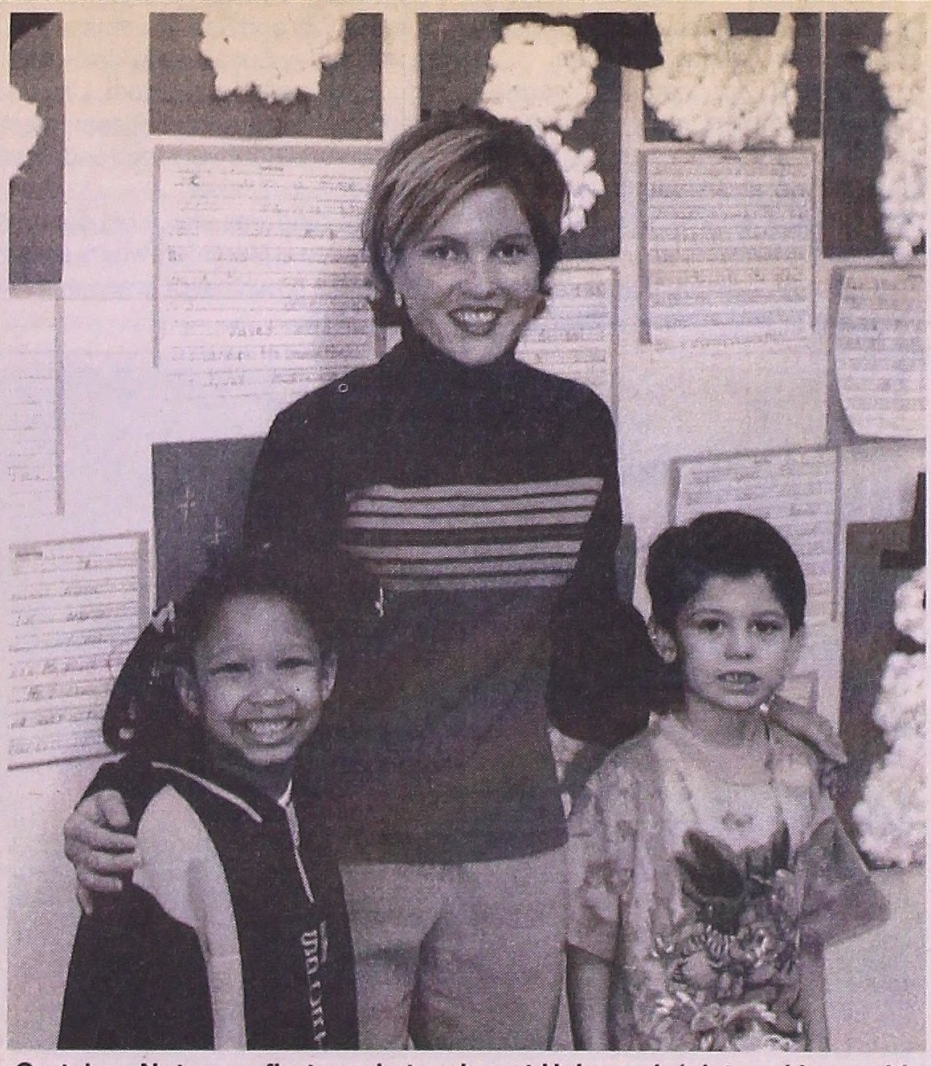
The Four Blocks process allows for instruction that covers various learning styles while promoting maximum student achievement. "That's important," Notaro says, "because students learn in different ways."

Formerly involved with the Romulus school district through a "Goals 2000" grant, Notaro developed a keen understanding of teaching students to read.

"I would like to help other teachers develop their skills for teaching reading because being a good reader benefits students in all areas of study," she explained. "It's very rewarding."

Even though Cunningham – now a college professor – often gives workshops on her reading process, many Michigan teachers are still not familiar with it. Notaro hopes to help these teachers expand their educational resources through her presentation.

"Romulus can be proud of the contributions that Gretchen will make at this conference," said Tom Dolan, Director of Curriculum. "Her presentation will demonstrate the educational leadership that we have developed over the last several years."



Gretchen Notaro, a first-grade teacher at Halecreek (pictured here with students Jalynn Echols and Steven Leppen), will make a presentation at the Michigan Reading Association's annual conference later this month.

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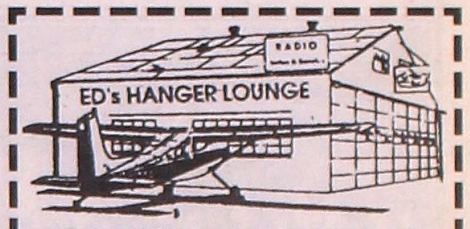

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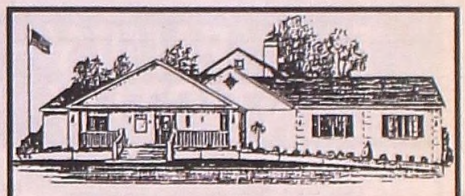
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Monday – 1/2 lb. Beefsteak Burger Deluxe with 20-oz. bottle of pop: **$4.97** + tax • w/cheese **$5.22** + tax
Tuesday – 1/2 Steak-N-Cheese Sub plus ***FREE*** 20-oz. bottle of pop: **$4.70** + tax
Wednesday – 1/2 Slab Rib Dinner includes fries, coleslaw, and homemade bread: **$6.58** + tax
Thursday – Wing Ding Day includes coleslaw, bread, and fries (hot sauce extra): **$4.47** + tax
Friday – Cod Dinner includes coleslaw, fries, and homemade bread **$4.61** + tax
Saturday – 1 Large Pizza with cheese and 2 toppings plus an order of Barnstix with cheese: **$10.65** + tax

• FAX for Group or Large Orders (734) 941-6888
• Daily Lunch Specials
• Catering Available
• Airport Delivery
• We Accept Most Competitors' Coupons

Free Flavored Crust: Cajun • Garlic • Butter • Onion • Poppyseed • Sesame Seed • Parmesan Cheese

$1.00 Off Any Small or Large Dipsters
Mozzarella cheese rolled in homemade bread, baked golden brown, brushed with garlic butter, sprinkled with cheese. Dipping sauce provided.

PIZZA Specials
2 Lrg w/3 Items $13.95
2 Med w/3 Items $10.95
2 Sml w/3 Items $8.50

Wing Ding Specials
12-Piece $3.99 Plus tax
24-Piece $6.99 Plus tax

$1.00 Off Any Sub or Roll
• Steak & Cheese
• Pizza • Italian
• Ham & Cheese
• BLT Sub
• Veggie
• Italian Sausage
• Cheese

$3.00 Off 5-foot Party Sub
Available In
• Italian
• Ham & Cheese
• Vegetarian
(48-hour notice needed for Party Subs)

CAN YOU GUESS WHO?

You might not have known our "mystery woman" when this picture was taken, but her adult face is familiar to many people in the City of Romulus.

To learn her identity, anagram (rearrange) each "key word" below – WITH THE ADDITION OF ONE LETTER – to answer the corresponding clue, and fill in the blanks accordingly.

If the puzzle is done correctly, the added letters, read from top to bottom, will spell out the name of this prominent local citizen.

ADD THE LETTER . . . TO THE LETTERS IN . . . TO GET

____ . . . LENSES . . . ____ *Summer* (Beach Boys LP) _____

____ . . . BASIN . . . dwarfed, ornamental tree _____

____ . . . CUBICLE . . . Arthur Miller play (with *The*) _____

____ . . . DEVICE . . . deliberately mislead _____

____ . . . SINGES . . . the first book? _____

____ . . . COASTER . . . forefather _____

____ . . . LOAFING . . . pink lawn ornament _____

____ . . . ATTIC . . . maneuver or strategem _____

____ . . . ELAPIDS . . . star cluster found in Taurus _____

____ . . . CRANE . . . site for a spelunker _____

____ . . . PRESTO . . . fencing maneuver _____

____ . . . CAGIER . . . huge mass of ice _____

____ . . . LOAMS . . . ski on a zigzag course _____

____ . . . TORN . . . author of *The Other* _____

For solution, see page 9

YOU'LL FIND IT IN "KNITTER"

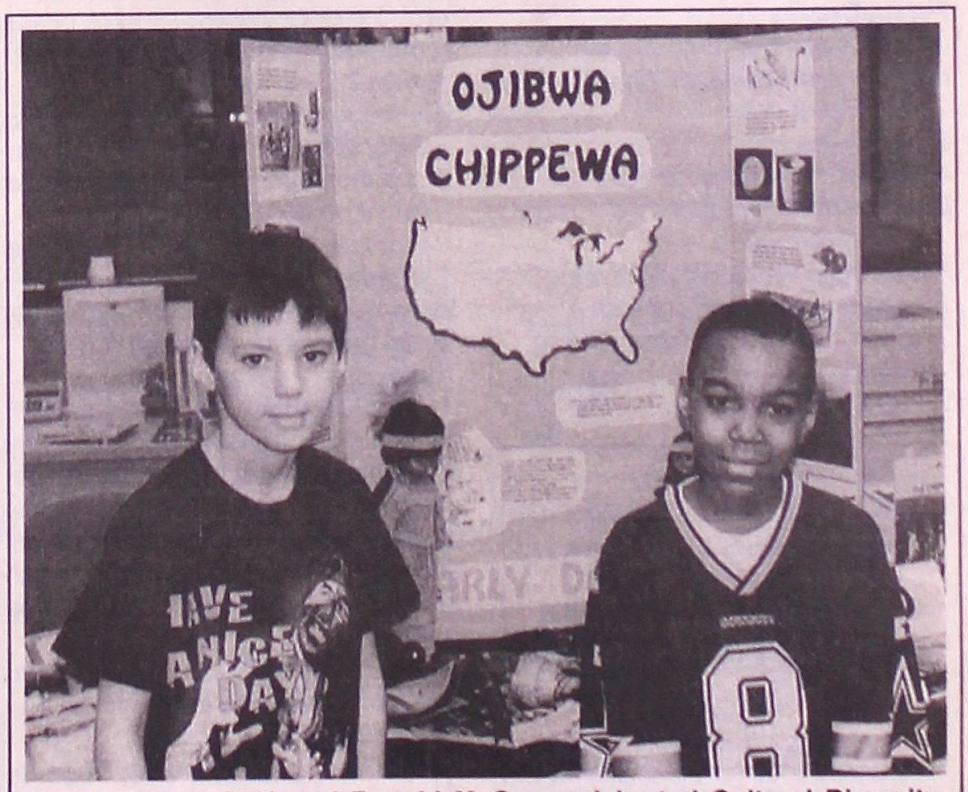
How many words of four or more letters can you form using only the letters found in KNITTER? A letter can be used more than once only if it appears more than once. Proper nouns, plurals, obsolete and archaic words, slang and informal words, poetic words, hyphenated words, contractions, alternate spellings, and foreign words are not permitted.

Our list of 24 words can be found on page 9

Celebrate Diversity

Director Ellen Bragg and her 21st-century Choir performed at Merriman's African-American Millennium Celebration on February 29.

Merriman students honored Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., with this "peace" flag (displayed by sixth-grader Nedra Harris and Principal Shellie Moore) and vowed to adopt his creed of non-violence.



Jerry Morgan (left) and Ronald McCray celebrated Cultural Diversity Week at Halecreek.

WW Says "This Spud's for You!"

They say that, on St. Patrick's Day, everyone is Irish. If that's true, then everyone can claim the potato as their native food.

Although it was introduced to North America in the early 1700s, the potato did not catch on in this country until over one million Irish immigrants brought it to the New World when they fled from the Irish potato famine of 1845. Then, catching on quickly, the potato became an American favorite until National affluence and the increased consumption of animal foods caused it to be labelled a "poor man's filler."

"More recently, potatoes earned the reputation for being a high-calorie food that weight-conscious Americans should avoid," says Florine Mark of Weight Watchers. "This couldn't be more untrue. An average potato contains only 100 calories, is fat-free, and has a high content of complex carbohydrates, vitamin C, and vitamin B6. In light of what we now know about healthy eating, its an excellent food for healthy Americans!"

So, try any of a tasty trio of potato recipes from *Weight Watchers Healthy Life-Style Cookbook*, reprinted below. Any way you try it, this spud's for you!

Pizza Stuffed Potato
(makes 2 servings)
1 baking potato (6 ounces), baked
1½ ounces mozzarella cheese, shredded, divided
¼ cup each tomato sauce and part-skim ricotta cheese
⅛ teaspoon each oregano leaves and garlic powder
2 teaspoons grated Parmesan cheese

Preheat oven to 450°F. Cut potato in half lengthwise. Scoop pulp from potato halves into a bowl, leaving ¼-inch-thick shells; mash pulp and reserve shells.

Add 1 ounce mozzarella cheese, the tomato sauce, ricotta cheese, oregano, and garlic powder to potato pulp and stir to combine.

Spoon half of potato mixture into each reserved shell; top each with half of the remaining mozzarella cheese and half of the Parmesan cheese. Set shells in 1-quart casserole and bake until thoroughly heated, about 10 minutes.

Per serving: 182 calories; 11 g protein; 8 g fat; 19 g carbohydrate; 233 mg calcium; 339 mg sodium; 27 mg cholesterol; 2 g dietary fiber.

Potato Crepes
(makes 2 servings, 2 crepes each)
6 ounces pared baking potato, shredded
½ cup grated onion
3 egg whites
1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
Dash each white pepper and ground nutmeg
2 teaspoons vegetable oil, divided
12 asparagus spears, cooked
¾ ounce reduced-fat Swiss cheese, shredded
¼ cup plain low-fat yogurt

In medium mixing bowl, combine potato, onion, egg whites, flour, pepper, and nutmeg; mix well.

Spray 9-inch nonstick skillet with nonstick cooking spray and heat; brush with ½ teaspoon oil. Pour ¼ of potato mixture into skillet and, using the back of a spoon, spread mixture over bottom of pan; cook over medium-high heat until bottom is browned, about 1 minute. Using a pancake turner, carefully turn crepe over and cook over medium heat until other side is browned, about 1 minute longer. Repeat this procedure 3 more times, using remaining oil and potato mixture to make 3 more crepes.

Preheat oven to 400°F. Onto center of each crepe, arrange 3 asparagus spears; fold sides of crepes over to enclose asparagus.

In 8x8x2-inch baking dish, arrange crepes, seam-side down; sprinkle with cheese. Bake until asparagus are heated through, about 10 minutes.

Top each with 1 tablespoon yogurt.

Per serving: 233 calories; 16 g protein; 7 g fat; 27 g carbohydrate; 223 mg calcium; 127 mg sodium; 9 mg cholesterol; 3 g dietary fiber.

Scalloped Potatoes and Leeks
(makes 2 servings)
9 ounces pared all-purpose potatoes, thinly sliced
½ cup thoroughly washed sliced leeks (white portion and some green)
1½ ounces reduced-fat Swiss cheese, shredded
⅛ teaspoon each salt and white pepper
½ cup canned ready-to-serve, low-sodium chicken broth

Preheat oven to 400°F. Spray 9-inch pie plate with nonstick cooking spray and arrange half of the potato slices in plate. Top with half of leeks, half of the cheese, the remaining potato slices, and the remaining leeks. Sprinkle with salt and pepper, then top with remaining cheese.

Pour broth evenly over cheese and bake until potatoes are fork-tender, 15–20 minutes.

Per serving: 193 calories; 12 g protein; 5 g fat; 28 g carbohydrates; 288 mg calcium; 199 mg sodium; 15 mg cholesterol; 2 g dietary fiber. ❑

HELP WANTED
Moore Pizza (located in Wayne) is looking for delivery drivers. Good pay; flexible hours.
Call Mike/Beth (734-721-7500)

FOR SALE
Kenmore apartment-size washer & dryer ($400 for the pair) and 11.5-cu.-ft. GE refrigerator ($50)
Call 734-941-1342

Community Calendar

- **"Health, Family, and You" Dinner** – The Romulus Community Schools' 21st-century Community Learning Center invites your family to attend a "Health, Family, and You" Dinner – featuring a menu of pizza, salad, and beverages – from 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 16, at Merriman Elementary. The program will also feature a discussion of the topic "Heart Smart and Food Art" by the district's nurse. Although there is no charge to attend, everyone is asked to preregister so that there will be enough food for all. Call 734-722-1050, ext. 273.
- **Free Tax Help at the Library** – Pamela Roberson of the IRS will be at the Romulus Public Library (11121 Wayne Road) from 12 to 4 p.m. March 18, April 1, and April 8 to assist citizens with their tax forms on a first-come/first-served basis. For more information, call 734-942-7589.
- **Hunter Safety Class** – The Romulus Police Department will host a Hunter Safety Education class at the Romulus VFW (39270 Huron River Drive) on Saturday and Sunday, March 25–26. (Lunch will be provided by the VFW.) Completion of the class earns participants a Hunter Safety Certificate. (State laws have required hunters to have such certificates since 1960, according to Officer Tom Ellis.) Although there is no charge for the class, preregistration is required, as space is limited to the first 50 applicants. Early sign-up is strongly recommended. Forms are available at the Romulus Police Department (11165 Olive in downtown Romulus).
- **In-Balance Center Hosts Annual Herb Conference** – The In-Balance Center of Romulus will host its 13th Annual Herb Conference at the Romulus Marriott (30559 Flynn Drive) from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 8. Ray Lambert, guest speaker, will discuss Nature's Sunshine, the Intestinal System, and Weight Loss. A vegetarian lunch is included in the $40 (nonrefundable) ticket price. RSVP by March 29. Call 734-941-8778.
- **Youtheatre Offers *Jekyll & Hyde*** – Youtheatre's Wiggle Club (children ages three to six; no one under three will be admitted to the theater) presentation of *Jekyll & Hyde* has been set for Saturday, April 8 (11 a.m. and 2 p.m.), and Sunday, April 9 (2 p.m.), at Music Hall (located at 350 Madison Avenue in Detroit). Individual tickets are $8 when purchased in advance; $9 at the door. For more information, call 313-963-2366.
- **Crafters Wanted** – Romulus High School's Class of 2002 invites the public to attend its Spring Craft Show, set for Sunday, April 9, at the High School. Table space is still available to crafters who would like to participate in this increasingly popular show. Call Rosalie Berlinn (734-941-2170, ext. 162).
- **Kids' Craft Program at the Library** – The next in the Romulus Public Library's seasonal craft classes for children in grades kindergarten through five will be held at the Library (11121 South Wayne Road, next to City Hall) on Saturday, April 15, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Although the class is free, preregistration is required. For more information, call 734-942-7589.
- **Used-book Sale** – The organization known as the Friends of the Romulus Library promises that its next used-book sale will be one of its largest ever. The event is set for Monday through Wednesday, April 24–26, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Saturday, April 29, from 12 to 5 p.m. (Bag Day). During the first three days of the sale, hardcovers will sell for $1, while paperbacks will go for 50¢; on Saturday, shoppers will be able to fill a grocery bag for $1.50. Don't miss this chance to stock up on weeks of reading for less than the cost of one new book.
- **RHS Class of 1970 To Hold 30-year Reunion** – Romulus High School's Class of 1970 is planning to hold its 30-year reunion on Saturday, August 26. For information, contact Gail (Howie) Curaba (734-697-1763), Roy and Cathy (Miank) Szyndlar (734-699-3139), or Jim Wagner (699-9050).
- **Attention, Class of 1950!** – Romulus High School's Class of 1950 will hold its 50-year reunion on Saturday, September 16, at the Wayne County Fair Grounds (Quirk Road, Belleville). Upper- and underclassmen also welcome. Call Donna (Rehkop) Genovese (734-941-0293) or Ruth (Stevenson) Meyers (734-941-0254), or contact Don Koza online (www.bilygoat.id.com). Note: Six class members – Richard Allen, Joan Annesser, Ardith Murdick, Eileen Musser, Arnold Woods, and Dorothy Zakolski – are still missing. Call one of the numbers above if you have information to share.

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174–0038; FAX it to us at 941-4874; or call 941-1907 or 941-3113

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Recreation Programs

Thanks to Debbie Dick, Director, City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, and Keith Brothers, Recreation Coordinator, for supplying information for the "Recreation News" column.

Unless otherwise noted, registration for the following programs should be made at the Romulus Recreation Center (36515 Bibbins) during its regular hours (weekdays, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.). For more information, stop in at the Center or call 734-942-6852.

Discover Opera!

"Discover Opera!" is the first in a series of cultural-enrichment programs that are being planned by the Romulus Arts Council with the assistance of the City's Recreation Department. This buffet dinner and opera "sampler" (to be performed by the Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan) is set for 6 p.m. on Friday, April 7, at the DoubleTree Hotel (31500 Wick Road).

Tickets – $12.50 per person – must be purchased no later than Friday, March 31. For more information, please call 734-942-7543.

Adult Summer Softball

The Romulus Recreation Department is currently accepting registrations for its adult summer softball league. Teams may choose from among the following divisions. (Note: Red = B & C; White = C & D; Blue = D & below.)

Mon./Wed. Men's White Division
- 8 teams / 21 games / 2 umpires
- times: 6:30, 7:40, 8:50, 10:00
- cost: $575
- "home run" limit: six per team

Mon./Wed. Women's White Division
- 8 teams / 14 games / 1 umpire
- times: 6:30, 7:40, 8:50, 10:00
- cost: $375
- "home run" limit: no limit

Fri. Men's Red Division (competitive)
- 8 teams / 14 games / 2 umpires
- times: 6:00, 7:15, 8:30, 9:45
- cost: $475
- "home run" limit: six per team

Fri. Men's Blue Division (recreational)
- 8 teams / 14 games / 2 umpires
- times: 6:00, 7:15, 8:30, 9:45
- cost: $475
- "home run" limit: four per team

Sun. Men's White Division
- 10 teams / 18 games / 2 umpires
- times: 12:00, 1:10, 2:20, 3:30, 4:40, 5:50
- cost: $500
- "home run" limit: five per team

(Note: Registration deadline is Friday, April 7. Early sign-up is recommended.)

Health Screenings

Romulus residents are urged to take advantage of various health screenings that will be offered as part of Project Healthy Living on Thursday, April 20. The program – sponsored by Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center–Wayne, WXYZ-TV, the United Health Organization, and the United Way – will be held at the Romulus Recreation Center from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Free Services
- vision screening,
- hearing screening,
- height and weight check,
- blood-pressure test,
- pulse oximetry,
- nutrition counseling, and
- medication counseling.

Services with Associated Charges
- blood panel testing ($25),
- prostate specific antigen (PSA) blood test ($25),
- colo-rectal cancer-screening take-home kit ($8),
- ovarian-cancer blood screening ($25),
- H. Pylori blood test for gastritis and ulcers ($15),
- osteoporosis (bone density) test ($10),
- pneumococcal vaccine ($25; free with Medicare card), and
- body-fat-composition test ($5).

Easter Egg Hunt

The Recreation Center's annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held at noon on Saturday, April 22, at Elmer Johnson Park. Searches will be broken into groups for ages two and under, three to four, five to six, and seven to eight.

Although there is no need to pre-register for this free program, youngsters are required to bring their own basket or other container for their eggs.

Dance

The Recreation Department's next session of youth dance classes will be held at Barth Elementary School each Wednesday beginning March 22 (except the combination class, which will be held each Tuesday beginning March 21) according to the following schedule:
- preschool ballet (ages three to five): 4:30 to 5 p.m.,
- preschool ballet (ages three to five): 5 to 5:30 p.m.,
- ballet (six and up): 5:30 to 6:15 p.m.,
- tap (six and up): 6:15 to 7 p.m.,
- jazz (six and up): 7:00 to 7:45 p.m.,
- jazz (11 and up): 7:45 to 8:30 p.m., and
- combination ballet, tap, and jazz (six and up): 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Note: A mini recital will be held at the end of the eight-week session.

Cost is $25 for the preschool class; $45 for the combination class; and $30 for all others.

Clogging

A 10-week clogging class will be held at Cory Elementary School on Mondays starting March 27. Beginners will meet from 6 to 7 p.m.; advanced students from 7 to 8 p.m. Cost is $20.

Gymnastics

Registrations are still being accepted for the next eight-week gymnastics session.

Preschool classes will meet at the Recreation Center each Tuesday from 6 to 6:45 p.m. beginning March 14; a second class will be added from 5:15 to 6 p.m. if enough students register.

Elementary classes (ages five and up) will meet at Romulus High School from 7:15 to 8 p.m. each Thursday beginning March 9.

Cost is $50 per person.

Karate

There's still time to sign up for the new session of karate classes that began March 7. Classes meet at Romulus Middle School on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. (beginners) and from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. (advanced). Cost is $30 per person, $55 for two family members, or $75 for the entire family.

Tai-chi

An advanced tai-chi class meets at the Recreation Center each Tuesday from 6:30 to 8 p.m. For more information, stop in and talk to the instructor.

Quilting

The Recreation Center's drop-in quilting class meets on Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m. For more information, stop in and talk to the instructor.

Ceramics

The Recreation Center's drop-in ceramics classes meet Mondays at 1 and 6 p.m. For more information, stop in and talk to the instructor.

Little League Sign-up

Final registration for the Romulus Little League tee-ball, baseball, and softball programs (ages five to 18) will be held at the Romulus Recreation Center on Friday, March 10, from 5 to 9 p.m. Fee is $35 per person/$50 per family; those who do not wish to sell two boxes of candy may choose to pay an additional fee, instead.

To sign up, parents or guardians must bring their child's birth certificate, proof of residence, and the full registration fee.

For more information, please call the Romulus Little League's hotline number (734-955-6204). ❑

Answers

answers to puzzles from page 7

CAN YOU GUESS WHO?

Endless, bansai, Crucible, deceive, Genesis, ancestor, flamingo, tactic, Pleiades, cavern, riposte, glacier, slalom, Tryon

"(Romulus Community Schools administrative secretary) Doreen McEvilly"

YOU'LL FIND IT IN . . .

kite, knit, rein, rent, rink, rite, tent, tern, tier, tine, tint, tire, trek, inert, inker, inter, niter, titer, trine, trite, kitten, tinker, tinter, trinket

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Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, Senior Citizens Program Coordinator for the City of Romulus, and Melissa Morton, Manager of the Romulus Tower, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column. (For more information about events at the Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins, please call 734-942-6852.)

Happy Birthday!

Best wishes for a wonderful birthday to those of my Tower neighbors born in the month of March: Edward Audet, Oral Byerley, Walter Byerley, Theresa Chadwick, Dorliska Colburn, Alta Curtis, Dorothy Flagg, Robbie Hughes, Mamie Johnson, Nancy Klimkowski, Lavonia Lambert, Marcia Lawson, Ruth Miller, Bonnie Polovino, Giovanna Scibilia, Inola Singleton, Irene Troutt, Ruth Ulrich, Marie Wilkerson, Robert Young, and Lillian Zundel.

Daylight Savings Time Begins

Just a reminder that Daylight Savings Time will begin Sunday, April 2, so be sure to "spring ahead" by setting your clocks forward one hour before going to bed Saturday night.

Free Tax Preparation

Now through April 12, volunteers from the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) will be available (by appointment only) at the Romulus Senior Center each Wednesday from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. to assist low- and moderate-income Romulus seniors with the preparation of their Federal and State 1040 forms, as well as those for homestead property-tax, home-heating, and prescription forms.

A list of materials which must be brought to the appointment will be provided at the time of registration.

Note: Pamela Kersey, Romulus City Treasurer, also offers free tax-preparation services for local seniors each Wednesday and Friday. To make an appointment, call 734-942-7580.

Diabetes Awareness

The Romulus Senior Center will join the local senior-citizen group called Club #1, the Medical Team of Michigan, and the Wayne County Nutrition Program in a presentation that will help to promote diabetes awareness. Set to begin at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 21, the presentation will feature free blood tests, a film on diabetes, and (for a suggested donation of $1.50), a light lunch. In order to insure that the Center will have enough food for everyone, a registration deadline of 12:30 p.m. Monday, March 20, has been established.

State Capitol Tour

Romulus senior citizens are invited to join students from the leadership class of Romulus Middle School teacher Betty Santo for an educational tour of the State Capitol and museum on Friday, March 24. The trip is one of the many successful intergenerational projects that are jointly conducted by the Senior Center and the Romulus Community Schools. If you would like to participate, sign up at the Center.

(Note: Seniors are advised that this trip to Lansing will involve a good deal of walking.)

Tornado Safety Drill

From March 27–31 (Tornado Awareness Week), the City of Romulus Emergency Management Office and the Romulus Senior Center will be coordinating a citywide tornado drill. The two groups will be contacting local businesses, asking them if they would like to participate in a drill in which senior citizens would play the parts of customers. Such a drill would permit the businesses to evaluate their tornado safety plans with regard to both employees and any nonemployees who might be on the premises at the time of an emergency.

Although the drill is not required, the City strongly urges the participation of as many businesses as possible.

If you would like to plan and/or take part in this fun and informative program, call Margaret Leduc, Emergency Management Coordinator (734-941-8585) or Linda Norman, Senior Program Coordinator (734-942-6852).

Crime Watch

Crime Prevention Officer Joe Richardson of the Romulus Police Department will be at the Romulus Senior Center from 9 to 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 23, for the Center's monthly Crime Watch program. New faces are always welcome.

Special Trips

Seniors interested in more information about these or other special trips that have been planned by the Romulus Senior Center should call Linda Norman at 734-942-6852.

- ***Soaring Eagle Casino/Mt. Pleasant*** (March 28; $9);
- ***Soaring Eagle Casino/Mt. Pleasant*** (April 25; $21);
- ***Soaring Eagle Casino/Show*** (May 24; $9); and
- ***Bay Mills/Kewadin Casinos*** (July 20–21; $129);
- ***New England (Maine, Vermont, and New Hampshire)*** (September 17–23; $799). ❑

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Science Day at Merriman School

Second-graders who took part in Merriman's recent Science Day program included (from left): front row – Chris Washington and Latrese Buck; second row – Shainaya Heard, Tony Mills, and Zachary Toilolo.

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REGULAR MEETING, FEBRUARY 14, 2000

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, February 14, 2000, was called to order by President Betty M. Lenossi at 6:30 P.M.

Roll call showed member Debbie Dick absent (excused). All administrators were present. (Member Dick arrived at 6:33 P.M.)

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Lenossi.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

2/00/1 Moved by Lambert supported by Webb to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

2/00/2 Moved by Lambert supported by Webb to approve the Minutes of January 24, 2000, as presented. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Personnel Actions

2/00/3 Moved by Webb supported by Lambert to accept the employment of Michael Thompson, Special Education, Romulus High School, Effective January 28, 2000, as recommended. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

2/00/4 Moved by McCraight supported by Lambert that the Board accept the retirement of Carolyn DuCheny, Bus Driver, Effective February 1, 2000. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Bills for Payment

2/00/5 Moved by Berlinn supported by Lambert to approve the Bills for Payment as presented by Mr. Joel R. Carr, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Elementary School Presentation – Kingscott

2/00/6 Moved by McCraight supported by Lambert that the Board of Education approve the schematic design for the new elementary school so that the architects may continue with a more detailed design. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Curriculum Report – Social Workers

Mrs. Jeffery Royal, Special Education Director, and the School District's social workers were present to update the Board on their program and respond to questions.

Phone System – Mt. Pleasant

2/00/7 Moved by Lambert supported by Webb that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the Adult Community Education Department and the Administration to purchase a phone system from Williams Communications Solutions for $19,311.15. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Computer Purchase – Mt. Pleasant

2/00/8 Moved by Webb supported by Lambert that the Board purchase 50 computers with zip drives from Dell Computers for $77,659. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Request for Sabbatical

2/00/9 Moved by Woods supported by Webb that the Board accept the recommendation of Dr. William M. Bedell, Superintendent, and approve a sabbatical for Antonia Soave for the 2000/2001 school year. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Communications and Expressions from the Public

Members of the audience voiced their concerns and posed questions to members of the Board of Education relative to the operation of the School District.

Items of Interest from the Superintendent

Dr. William M. Bedell, Superintendent, shared the following items of interest with members of the Board of Education: 1) Finance Committee Minutes; 2) Basham – Congratulations; and 3) Ellis – Comments on Grant.

Questions and/or Concerns of Board Members

Mrs. Debbie Dick requested a listing of special programs and the staff that supports them. She also asked for class counts for the Middle School and High School.

Mr. Billy McCraight expressed his desire to meet with counselors at the High School.

Mr. Kenneth Berlinn gave a synopsis of his recent attendance at the MASB Winter Conference held in Lansing, Michigan, February 11–13, 2000.

Mr. Michael Woods inquired as to who referred students to re-teachers.

Executive Session – Negotiations

2/00/10 Moved by Lambert supported by Woods that the Board convene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing negotiations. Roll call vote showed: Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board convened in Executive Session at 8:35 P.M. and reconvened in Regular Session at 8:48 P.M.

2/00/11 Moved by McCraight supported by Webb that the Board accept the recommendation of Dr. William M. Bedell, Superintendent, and accept the retirement letter of Dr. Samuel B. La Monica, Director of Human Resources, effective June 30, 2000, and that he further be offered the administrative severance of $30,000 upon completion of his duties, and that further Dr. La Monica be advised that the Board of Education appreciates his efforts in bringing the personnel department of the Romulus Community Schools into the 21st century. Ayes: 6. Nays: 1 (Dick). Motion carried.

2/00/12 Moved by McCraight supported by Webb that the Board accept the recommendation of Dr. William M. Bedell, Superintendent, and Mr. Joel R. Carr, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, and appoint Mr. Edward Clark as Director of Human Resources effective April 1, 2000. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

2/00/13 Moved by Woods supported by Lambert that the meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth E. Berlinn, Secretary, Romulus Board of Education

Obituary

Clara B. Howard

Clara B. Howard of Romulus, Michigan, died on Saturday, February 12, 2000, at the age of 76.

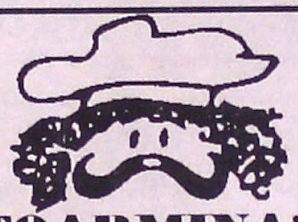
The native of Belleville, Michigan, was born July 15, 1923.

Surviving her are two sons, Milton L. Wood (Chelsea, MI) and Harold "David" Wood (Romulus, MI); two daughters, Ms. Emily J. Wood (Romulus, MI) and Theresa A. Vernier (Belleville, MI); two sisters, Mrs. Arthur (Francis) Spangler and Mrs. Vera Jackson; 15 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Three brothers and three sisters predeceased her.

A funeral service was held on Tuesday, February 15, 2000, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with Pastor John Loren officiating.

Interment was at Denton Cemetery (Van Buren Twp., MI). ❑



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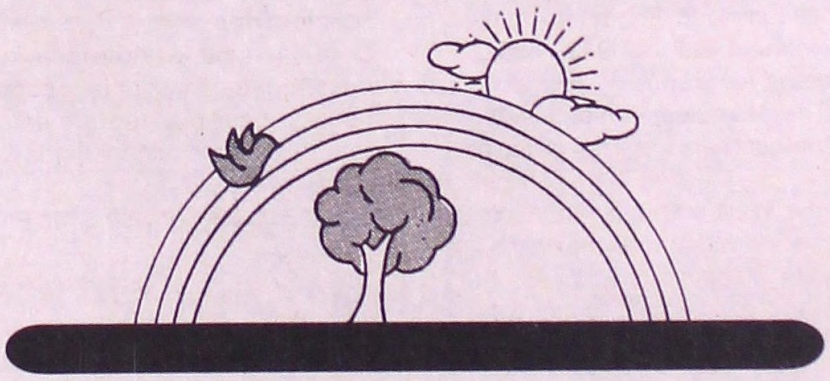

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